

HELLO AGAIN

VOL 19 NO. 4

JUL-AUG 1988

A PERSONAL NOTE: All convention information received by July 8th is on the flyer. All additional information is below...I have a 2-page supplement to my Circulating Show Log (Sup. 5) for a SASE. The complete log of all circulating shows is \$23.00. The address of Dick Brescia who is bartering Mystery Theater mentioned last issue is: 17 Appletree Ln, Norwalk, CT 06850.

CONVENTION '88: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional guests tentatively coming are Raymond Edward Johnson who will give a show Saturday afternoon; Mandel Kramer; Gil Mack...Other possible workshops are: Sound effects workshop with Barney Beck, Terry Ross and Ray Erlenborn (Saturday); Female detectives with Jack French (Friday)...In order to allow as many dealers as possible to attend our convention, we are limiting the number of tables to 3 for each dealer. If, by convention time, there are tables still available, dealers may have more tables. There are 46 tables available.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: The top 5 network radio advertisers for 1987 were: Sears; Ford; Warner-Lambert; Anheuser Busch; Procter and Gamble. The top 5 network radio advertisers for 1937 were: Procter and Gamble; Standard Brands; American Tobacco Co.; General Foods; Lever Brothers.. Three companies still syndicating OTR are on the last page. The information is from Broadcasting Magazine, Jul 25.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: MET. WASHINGTON OTR CLUB NEWS, Jun-Jul, articles on ORCATS and soap operas...SPERDVAC RADIOGRAM, Jun; article on Harry Ackerman...OLD TIME RADIO DIGEST, May-Jun; article on Night Beat...ON THE AIR, Jul-Aug; article on Sherlock Holmes...MILWAUKEE CLUB newsletter; article on Les Paul...NOSTALGIA DIGEST, Aug-Sep, articles on Harry Von Zell and Marlene Dietrich.

BOOKS and MAGAZINES: A new book from Texas Monthly Press is "Border Radio." This book by Gene Fowler and Bill Crawford tells of the Mexican border stations, many being 500,000 watts, and their unusual and interesting programming from 1930-1960. Special cost to HA subscribers or members of any OTR club is \$17.16 including postage and handling. Write to TMP, Box 1569, Austin, TX 78767...Lou Dumont wrote a very nice article on Lanny Ross which appears in the August issue of ANTIQUES & COLLECTING HOBBIES. The magazine is looking for writers in all collecting areas to submit articles for publication. They will receive payment. Write to Dave Trout, ANTIQUES & COLLECTING HOBBIES, 1006 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60605.

CONVENTIONS: SPERDVAC will hold its annual convention on Nov 11-12 at the Viscount Hotel in Los Angeles. For details send a SASE to Larry Gassman, Box 1587, Hollywood, CA 90078. Information is also contained in SPERDVAC'S newsletter.

LOGS: Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Hts, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has a complete log of Mercury Theater of the Air and Campbell Playhouse for a SASE with 2 stamps.

☒ If box is checked, \$10 is due for another year

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: DAVE SIEGEL, Box 610, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 has updates of all his shows beginning with D, N-R, T. Among many other items he has the complete run of One World Flight, written by Norman Corwin. Dave has one of the largest collections of OTR shows in the world. He welcomes trades with people who have shows and OTR books and magazines that he needs.

YOU AND THE LAW: In response to Charles Michelson's article last issue: Most people who broadcast OTR are donating their time and materials to provide a means of entertainment that might otherwise not be available in their area. Their hobby needs all the help it can get in that regards. The reason the stations are not using Mr. Michelson's materials is they cannot afford his high price structure. Public stations and smaller stations have very limited budgets. Regardless of whether or not Mr. Michelson provides compensation to some producer or writer of the show or someone's estate who gives him a nod of approval does not transfer copyright to Mr. Michelson. This does not even indicate that the persons he is paying are even the copyright owners. Mr. Michelson has been complaining for years about this because he is afraid he will lose money to a station that probably can't pay him anyway - and OTR wouldn't be on in that area.

The collectors who are rebroadcasting OTR in general are interested only in helping to promote the hobby and share their collection with everyone. Mr. Michelson is only interested in making a profit.

This response was written by a collector who wishes to remain anonymous.

NEW ADDRESSES: Roy Holmes, 30 Margate Dr, Rochester, NY 14616...GARY KEEFER, 208 Highland Ter, Pittsburgh, PA 15215...PAUL WEISS, 1217 South Potomac St, Baltimore, MD 21224...NARA (Jackie Thompson, Box 118781, Cincinnati, OH 45211).

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: DON BERHENT, 807 Glenhurst Rd, Willowick, OH 44094. Don's main interest is in The Shadow and movie serials. Also wants to purchase books on the above...STEVE VINK, 2910 Goodwood Rd #C, Baltimore, MD 21214...GEORGE MCCARTHY, Box 186, Spruce Pine, NC 28777...W. MICHAEL SPRAGUE, 11732 NE 148th Pl, Kirkland, WA 98034...HARRY GOLDMAN, RR6 Box 181, Glens Falls, NY 12801. Harry wants Kraft Music Hall of 12/11/47 (Al Jolson and Yehudi Menuhin); Start of Fred Allen feud with J Benny in which a young boy plays "The Bee" on the violin; J Benny show in which he plays "The Bee."; Secretary Hawkins "Ghost of Lake Tapahoe" episodes (Ralston Purina); Fiorello LaGuardia tribute to Nikola Tesla over WNYC on Jan 10, 1943. Harry wants any program featuring famous violinists (Isaac Stern was guest on several J Benny shows)...ED DRAPIKOWSKI, 2 Mott St, Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

OLD FRIENDS: FRANK TOMASELLI, 29-10 Donna Ct, Staten Island, NY 10314 is looking for ILAM from 1939-1944; also Fred Allen's Town Hall Tonight.. CHUCK JUZEK, 57 Hutton Ave, Nanuet, NY 10954 is looking for the Green Hornet episode in which Britt Reid reveals himself to his father as being the Green Hornet. The show was broadcast around 1943. Also, my Green Hornet log starts with 1940. Does anyone have a log of the shows from 1936-40...TOM HEATHWOOD, 22 Broadlawn Pl, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167 looking for Shadow programs between 1941-44. There seems to be a scarcity between those years. Tom also has a supplement to his catalog for a SASE

SPECIAL NOTICE: "The Secret of Dominion" is an original science fiction radio drama in 13 half-hour episodes. It test-aired in St. Louis, Mo on WMRV-Fm in 1987 to critical and audience acclaim. It was produced and co-written by Susan Bayer, a 41 year-old radio drama and science fiction fan who is a commercial "voice" for radio and tv in St. Louis as well as a writer and producer. Her goal was to re-create the sound and feel of the Golden Age of Radio in the scripts and actor performances but use state-of-the-art recording techniques, sound effects and synthesizer musical scoring. Over 60 professional actors provide the versatility of characters and voices. The entire series has been put on audio cassette and is available only through direct mail. Currently radio stations are being lined up for National broadcast in early 1989. For more information write Susana Bayer at Cygnus III Productions Ltd., Box 220096, St. Louis, MO 63122...I personally enjoy the series - recommend it.

IN FOND MEMORY: TOM LEWIS, May 20, 86; founder of Armed Forces Radio service. Also started The Screen Guild Theater in the 30's using proceeds to start the Motion Picture and Television Country Home in the San Fernando Valley...LLOYD MARX, May 26, 72; composer-conductor (Family Hour, Original Amateur Hour)...ROY FREEMAN, May 16, 89; country music star, singing mostly in the midwest...ELLA RAINES, May 30, 66; actress; was in 3 LUX (The Phantom Lady, The Suspect, The Web)...CHARLES VANDA, Jun 4, 84; producer-director (p-d of first 5 Suspense; also Rogues Gallery)...LEON BELASCO, Jun 1, 86; bandleader and character actor (Phil Baker's Armour Hour, The Man Called X)...HANK RICHARDS, May 23, 81; writer (Lux Radio Theater, Lights Out), producer (National Barn Dance), singer in the early 20's...MARTHA MEARS, Dec 13, 78; radio singer (Joe Penner, Standard Symphony Hour, Colgate House Party)...HERMAN CROOK, Jun 10, 39; last surviving founding member of the Grand Ole Opry which began in 1925...EVIE JUSTER, Jun 2; Evie was a guest at our conventions every year since we started in 1976. She performed in many radio shows including Let's Pretend, Cavalcade of America, Dr. Christian...DENNIS DAY, Jun 22, 71; I had the good fortune to accompany Dennis at the radiothon in Hyannis several years ago...EUGENIE BAIRD, Jun 12, 63; big band and radio singer (Breakfast Club)...DAWS BUTLER, May 19, 71; cartoon voice (Huckleberry Hound, Yogi Bear) and radio actor (Stan Freberg Show, That's Rich, Suspense)...Walter Frammer, Jun 21, 80; producer and writer (Black Hood, Glamour Manor, Break the Bank)...Anton M (Morris) Leader, Jul 1, 74; radio, tv and film director (Suspense, Eternal Light, Radio Reader's Digest)...MANNY MANHEIM, Jun 26, 90; comedy writer (Kraft Music Hall, Edgar Bergen)

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JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, Ct 06514 (203) 248-2887 \$10/year

Charles Michelson Inc., Beverly Hills, Calif., which distributes classic radio programs from the medium's "golden age," is releasing Arch Obler's *Lights Out*, one of the more popular radio mystery programs from the 1930's. Company owner, Charles Michelson, is now in the process of transferring the original 16-inch transcriptions to tape. So far, six half-hour episodes have been transferred, and will begin airing in August. Michelson said he is also adding the *Abbott and Costello Show* to the collection of comedy programs he has available, including *Jack Benny*, *Burns and Allen* and *Edgar Bergen*. A new production is in the works called *Stuart Hamblen's Cowboy Church of the Air*, featuring "inspirational stories" and music composed by the popular Western song writer of such tunes as "Blue Bonnet" and "This Old House."

Programs including *Damon Runyon Theater*, *Dragnet*, *Green Hornet* and *The Lone Ranger* continue to be available. All the programs are half-hours and sold on a cash basis.

□

Real Radio, Pasadena, Calif., will be expanding their premiere show, *Same Time...Same Station*, to a two-hour format in 1989. The show, described as an "affectionate chronicle of radio's first half-century" by John Price, president of Real Radio, airs popular comedy and drama series that ran in the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's, many of which have not been heard since their original broadcast. One show, called "Jimmy Durante Remembers," used excerpts from a 1933 broadcast. *Same Time* is sold on a barter basis to approximately 60 stations, and is fed to those stations on Sunday morning via Satcom 1R. According to Price, most stations run the show either Sunday afternoon or in the evening.

Real Radio also continues to syndicate three formats, *Real Country Format*, a full service country music format; *Great American Broadcast*, a middle-of-the-road format geared to traditional or MOR listeners; and *Real AC*, an adult contemporary format, with classic rock and an optional jazz fusion library.

Dick Brescia Associates is a new program syndication firm formed by the former senior vice president of the CBS Radio Networks. The company, which works out of the New York offices of Metropolitan Broadcasting, is readying two series for a September launch: *End of the Road*, a weekly one-hour "homespun" series hosted by humorist and author Tom Boddett, and *Mystery Theater*, the one-hour daily broadcast that was originally distributed by the CBS Radio Network in the 1970's and early 1980's. The company is also preparing short-form feature packages.



Warning!! Do Not Fail

**TO ATTEND THE 13th ANNUAL FRIENDS OF
OLD TIME RADIO CONVENTION AND MEET
CARLTON E. MORSE AND THE CAST OF
"I LOVE A MYSTERY"**

Oct. 20-22, 1988 • HOLIDAY INN NORTH • NEWARK INTERNAT. AIRPORT, NJ

GUESTS

SPECIAL CONVENTION GUESTS who have given definite or tentative acceptance of our invitations:

OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS

KIRK (Superman) ALYN - The Whistler, Portia Faces Life
RAY ERLBORN - (Sound effects artist) Al Pearce
CARLTON E. MORSE - (Writer) ILAM, One Man's Family
RICHARD WILSON - Mercury Theatre

NEW LOCAL GUESTS

BOB DRYDEN - Superman, ILAM, Big Town
LEE FALK - (creator) Mandrake, the Magician
JEANNE HARRISON - (prod-dir) Boston Blackie, Cisco Kid, Philo Vance
RAY HEATHERTON - (singer)
SANFORD MARSHALL - (prod-dir) Mutual
JAN MINER - Boston Blackie, Hilltop House, Perry Mason ILAM
TONY RANDALL - ILAM
JOAN SHEA - Aldrich Family, March of Time
MARY SMALL - (singer)

RETURNEES

GEORGE ANSBRO - (Announcer) Ethel & Albert
Barney Beck (Sound effects artist) ILAM
JACKSON BECK - (Announcer) Superman,
COURT BENSON - Big Sister, Tennessee Jed
FRAN CARLON - Big Town
LON CLARK - Nick Carter
ED HERLIHY - (Announcer) Kraft
Ted Malli (Announcer) ILAM

GRACE MATTHEWS - The Shadow
ARNOLD MOSS - Grand Central Station, Cabin B-13
DICK OSGOOD - WXYZ personality
KEN ROBERTS - (Announcer) The Shadow, Ellery Queen, It Pays to be Ignorant
ADELE RONSON - Buck Rogers
TERRY ROSS - (Sound effects artist)
SIDNEY SLON - (Producer, director, writer)
ARNOLD STANG - Let's Pretend, Henry Morgan
Bob Steel (Dir) Ellery Queen
MARGOT STEVENSON - The Shadow, Aunt Jenny
EZRA STONE - Henry Aldrich
DWIGHT WEIST - (Announcer & actor) The Shadow, Aldrich Family

This, our 13th Annual Convention, gives old-time radio fans another opportunity to meet fellow enthusiasts from around the U.S., Canada and England. But most of all, the Convention honors those actors, actresses, and technicians who made the age of radio truly golden.

The cooperation of fans and radio personalities has resulted in exciting and interesting events through the years, including the reuniting of actual radio casts in live re-creations of Let's Pretend, The Shadow, Johnny Dollar, Mr. District Attorney, Counterspy, The Lone Ranger, The Aldrich Family, The Great Gildersleeve, Big Town, Quick as a Flash and many other fine shows. Unlike many other nostalgia conventions, guests and fans mingle continually, letting radio live again for these three days every year.

EVENTS

The following events are tentatively scheduled. Some may be added or dropped depending on additional guests or other changes. Time will be announced at the convention.

THURSDAY EVENING:

Cocktails and dinner: 5:30-8:30
Reminiscing with the special guests
Dave Warren Players (first performance)
Trivia

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:

Dealer's room: 12 noon - 6 pm
Use of computers in OTR (Bob Burnham)
Lending Libraries (Tom Monroe)
Radio in England (Barry Hill)
Dave Warren Players (second show)
Gateway to Hollywood - panel and auditions

FRIDAY NIGHT:

Cocktails: 5:30pm
Dinner: 7 pm
Re-creation (s) One or two of the following:
Let's Pretend, Dick Tracy, Cabin B-13,
The Hitchhiker
Meet Carlton E Morse

SATURDAY (Daytime):

Dealer's room: 9 am - 3 pm
Gateway to Hollywood (Ray Erlenborn)
Gunsmoke panel (Don Aston)
Superman - 50th Anniversary (Panel, workshop and re-creation)
War of the Worlds - 50 years (panel)
Music of the Lone Ranger (Reg Jones)

SATURDAY NIGHT:

Cocktails: 5:30pm
Dinner: 7:00pm
Musical tribute to radio by Fields and Daugherty.
Re-creation (I Love a Mystery)
Awards

GETTING THERE

Holiday Inn-North at Newark International Airport is very convenient.

By air: Free shuttle bus from airport. From LaGuardia or Kennedy, take limousine service or helicopter to Newark airport; then free shuttle.

By bus: Bus service from Manhattan's Port Authority to Newark Airport: then take shuttle bus.

By car: From NJ Turnpike take Exit 14; take second right marked "SERVICE ROAD" after toll booth. DO NOT TAKE FIRST RIGHT which is Rt 1 & 9. Take second right directly under bridge marked service road. Take one of the right-hand tolls.

From Garden State Parkway south of airport take Exit 140 to Route 22E to Routes 1 & 9 North, local. Follow the blue sign marked "Service Road"; follow to hotel.

From Newark International Airport exit airport and follow Route 1 & 9 North to "Service Road."

COST

Reserve your spot as soon as possible. Prepaid tickets are held at the door.

Thursday, October 20th, evening; \$22.00.
Choice of London Broil, chicken cordon bleu, stuffed fillet of sole. Indicate choice with reservation.

Friday, October 21st, daytime only, (up to 6 pm) \$7.00 per person.

Friday, October 21st, daytime and evening including buffet dinner (12 noon - 11 pm) \$30.00 per person

Saturday, October 22nd, daytime only (9 am - 6 pm) \$8.00 for adult; \$6.00 for child under 16 and senior citizen

Saturday, October 22nd, daytime and evening including buffet dinner (9 am - 11 pm) \$39.00 for adult; \$36.00 for child under 16 and senior citizen

Complimentary coffee Friday and Saturday morning; Complimentary Danish Saturday morning; complimentary hors d'oeuvres both evenings during cocktail hour.

DEALER'S TABLES are \$35.00 each PLUS registration fees. There is a limit of three tables for each dealer. 46 tables are available.

HOTEL: \$57.00 for single, \$62.00 for double. Reserve rooms when you send in convention registration. Pay for rooms upon arrival. Rooms should be reserved by October 14th. Give details (names, nights, etc.) with registration (send no money for hotel).

REGISTRATION

Advance dinner reservations must be made. Reservations are limited. (Friday 200; Saturday 350). Make checks out to: **FOTR** (Friends of Old-time Radio)

MAIL TO:

Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514
(203) 248-2887.

Full tables (10) can be reserved in advance for Friday and Saturday night dinner.

For further information you may also contact Anthony Tollin (201) 575-6849. Anthony Tollin is program and re-creation chairman.

Committee and workshop leaders not mentioned already are: Jeanie Aston, Bob Burchett, Barbara and Dave Davies, Jan and Dave Easter, Gary Kramer, Ron Lackmann, Lee Munsick, Bill Nadel, Mary and Don Ramlow, Terry Ross, Joe Webb, Gary and Anna Jean Yoggy.